

green to promote organ donation awareness, I am proud to introduce a bipartisan resolution to recognize April 2019 as "National Donate Life Month" and support its goals and ideals.

Every ten minutes, a person is added to the national transplant waiting list. As of April 2019, more than 113,000 people are awaiting an organ donation. Unfortunately, despite over 145 million people registered to be donors, the need for donated organs outweighs the supply of organs. Sadly, on average, 20 people die each day while waiting for an organ transplant.

The simple truth is that organ donation and transplantation saves lives. In fact, organ donation from a single deceased donor can benefit up to eight individuals and tissue donation can benefit an additional 75 people or more. Living kidney and liver donors provide transplant candidates with the chance to live longer.

I am proud to sponsor this resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives again and recognize that organ donation is the gift of life.

SAMANTHA GAMINO

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 12, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha Gamino for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

The Youth Award focuses on teenagers who have overcome personal adversity and created positive changes in their lives and their community. The program provides businesses, the community and civic leaders an opportunity to support young people in their communities and recognize their accomplishments. Samantha is the perfect recipient for this award because despite adversities and challenges, she has become an inspiration and role model for her peers.

The dedication and leadership demonstrated by Samantha is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Gamino for this well-deserved recognition. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

MR. KEN CARTER

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 12, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Mr. Ken Carter after many years of service to his country. His time as an independent contractor, government contractor, and Supervisory Contract Specialist has been invaluable, and we wish him well in his well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Ken Carter is a retired enlisted airman, retiring as Senior Master Sergeant after 23 years of service. With more than 38 years of

experience in contracting, his experience includes major construction, commodities, services, R&D, and Systems Engineering. In terms of higher education, Mr. Carter holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Management Development from Bluefield College and an Associate Degree in Contract Management from the Community College of the Air Force. Mr. Carter also holds an Unlimited Contracting Officer Warrant with the VA and a Level III Contracting Professional Certification.

Currently serving as a Supervisory Contract Specialist with the VA, he is responsible for the supervision of 5 subordinate employees. Prior to assuming this position, Mr. Carter provided services as a Procurement Coordinator within the Strategic Acquisitions Center ARRC Directorate. His previous assignments include a five-year tour with the Federal Aviation Administration where he completed the largest single major contract in the history of the Agency. Beyond his illustrious career, Mr. Carter enjoys fishing, doing yard work, camping in the Shenandoah Valley, and attending football games at James Madison University where his grandson is a member of the JMU Marching Royal Dukes band. Residing in Spotsylvania County with his wife Ronna Carter, it is easy to see that Mr. Carter has led a wonderful, purpose filled life.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the bounty of Mr. Ken Carter's accomplishments as he enters retirement. To that end, we hope that he enjoys the extra time he has with his family, his football games, as well as with his fishing poles.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF  
CHARLES EUGENE GEE

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 12, 2019*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Charles Eugene Gee of Jasper, Texas, who recently lost his four-year battle with cancer. Mr. Gee passed away at his home surrounded by loved ones on April 3, 2019.

Charles Eugene Gee, more affectionately known as Charlie, was born on October 10, 1942 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. His family eventually moved to Jasper, Texas, where he graduated from Jasper High School in 1960 and married his high school sweetheart, Sue Hollis Gee, in July of 1962.

In 1966, Charlie graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University with a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture and Forestry. He began working as a new-hire for Kirby Lumber Co. and eventually became the logging superintendent. After 18 years with Kirby, Charlie decided to start his own logging business, Charles Gee Logging Inc. Over the years, he worked many long hours as the dedicated and successful owner of his logging company, as well as several other local businesses. In fact, Charlie later became the State Coordinator for the Texas Logging Counsel, a position in which he served proudly to improve conditions for future generations of loggers.

After his college graduation, Charlie became a dedicated member of the Jasper Volunteer Fire Department. During his time at the department, he served as an original member of

the Board of Trustees for the Texas Fire Museum, president of the East Texas Firemen and Fire Marshall's Association, a member on the committee for the Retirement and Pension Fund for Jasper's firemen, and even as the Fire Chief. He also became an instructor for the Texas A&M Fire School in College Station, where he eagerly shared his years of fire-fighting knowledge and experience with younger generations. His devotion and service will live on through the various fire departments in Jasper County and surrounding areas that were established on his instruction.

Charlie is survived by his bride of nearly 57 years, Sue Hollis Gee; his daughters Sarah Smith and husband Sam; Laura McMillon and husband Mitch; Rebecca Soisson and husband Scott; Jennifer Cline and husband Billy; and brother Bill Gee and wife Sue. Charlie is also survived by his grandchildren: Matthew and wife Halea; Ashleigh, Charlie, John, Henry, Jacob, Emily, Michael, Brian, Brandon, and Grant, as well as four great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to remember the life of Charles Eugene Gee. May God comfort his family during this time.

CONGRATULATING JOHN REID  
FROM JOHN DEERE FOR HIS  
ELECTION TO THE NATIONAL  
ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 12, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Reid for his election into the National Academy of Engineering through his company, John Deere. Election to the Academy is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer, and Dr. Reid was elected for innovation in automation technologies for agricultural systems.

Membership in the National Academy of Engineering honors those who have made outstanding contributions to engineering, including significant contributions to the engineering literature and to the pioneering of new and developing fields of technology, advancements in traditional fields of engineering, or innovative approaches to engineering education. John Reid graduated from Virginia Tech with a bachelors and master's degree in agricultural engineering. He obtained his Ph.D. from Texas A&M in 1987. Dr. Reid is currently the Director of Product Technology & Innovation at John Deere, and is also a full professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Reid has created several patents with the U.S. Patent Office in the years he has worked at John Deere. He is also on the board of several organizations in the Moline area.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as John Reid that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate John Reid for his acceptance into the National Academy of Engineering.